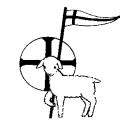
Church of St John the Baptist, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 29th November Advent Sunday



November Trees, Tymawr Convent, Monmouthshire

November Sonnet by Elizabeth Jennings

Spirit of place. Spirit of time. Re-form
The rugged oaks and chestnuts. Now they stand
Naked and pallid giants out of storm
And out of sorts. It is the Autumn's end

And this is Winter brought in by All Saints Fast followed by All Souls to keep us in Touch with chill and death. Each re-acquaints Us with the year's end. Yet we now begin

A life of realism, watching out For a red sunset, grateful for a dawn Of rich light now. Tall shadows step and strut

Facing the big wind daily coming on Faster. This is the season of right doubt While that elected child waits to be born.

At this time of year when the leaves have fallen, the days are shortening and Advent is upon us, we may naturally reflect on this past year. Its joys but also its lost hopes and plans that did not come to fruition. The effect of Covid 19 has changed much of our normal lives and blown us like falling leaves to new terrain. As we adjust to new ways of living, with more restrictions, let us take heart that the season of Advent beckons us to look for the light in the darkness, hope in a time of confusion, with a promise that Christ will come again to us, not bound by time, place or pandemic.

Advent Blessings to you all. Juliette

Today's services

Online via Zoom

9.30am Advent Parish Communion from St John's, Tisbury

with music led by Stuart and Heather Robinson

President: The Revd Juliette Hulme Preacher: The Revd Mark Hayter

Parish Communion for Advent Sunday, with the lighting of the first Advent candle. Streamed live from St John's for you to join from the comfort of your own home! The Kyrie was recorded by the choir in St Andrew's Chapel just before the first lockdown.

4.00pm Advent Service

Led by the Revd Elaine Brightwell

A service of music and readings for Advent

Services during the week continue online

Full details are on the website: www.tisburyparishchurch.org

9.30am Family Communion – in church!

President: The Revd Juliette Hulme

Church open for private prayer

The church continues to be open daily between 9.00am and 4.00pm for private prayer.

Because of limited capacity, booking is essential for all Christmas services

via the Parish Administrator (see below - email bookings preferred)

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 64.1-9

The Gospel: Mark 13.24-end

"In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

A Call to Prayer for the Nation

The Archbishops have asked that every church pray for the nation at 6pm each day; they have published a weekly prayer and a prayer theme for each day. In the Nadder Valley, we shall be joining this initiative just a little earlier each weekday, by incorporating the prayers into our online service of Evening Prayer at 5.30pm. Do join us!

Coffee Time!

Fancy a cuppa and a chat? Feeling isolated during lockdown? We meet on Zoom on Friday mornings for an hour or so starting at 10 am. Hosted by the Revd Joanna Naish. Just click on the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81306923058?pwd=U2VBWDhodkppZDkrdEhuUEc0aFpYdz09 Passcode: 567559

or phone 0203 481 5237 Meeting ID: 813 0692 3058 Passcode: 567559

If you need support

As always, the Revd Juliette Hulme (Parish Priest) is available to give pastoral and spiritual support (see below)

Other useful numbers with trained listeners (calls to these numbers are free):

The Samaritans 116 123 Childline 0800 IIII

Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247 Silverline (age 55+) 0800 4 70 80 90

Wiltshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 01225 775276 [weekends and out of hours 01793 610610]

Christmas Charity Donations

Since the notice was placed in Focus (p10), the Trussell Trust has said that it is not able to take donations at the moment as they have no more storage space; Alabare Christian Care would be very pleased to receive donations. Supermarket tokens for the Refuge would also be very welcome.

Giving to the church



Thank you very much to those who continue to give regularly to the church. If you haven't committed to regular giving, why not consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme or setting up a standing order? Details from Paul Naish, email sitgiftaid@gmail.com tel 01747 870731 07587 072900. Our income dropped significantly during the first lockdown, while expenses continued; any donations would be very welcome. Cheques payable to Tisbury PCC.